



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



March 1998

| Location  | Date      | Time<br>Local/<br>Standard | Path<br>Length<br>(Miles) | Path<br>Width<br>(Yards) | Number of<br>Persons<br>Killed | Number of<br>Persons<br>Injured | Estimated<br>Damage<br>Property | Estimated<br>Damage<br>Crops | Character of Storm             |
|---|-----------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>ILLINOIS, Central</b>  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>ILZ027&gt;031-036&gt;038-040&gt;057</b>  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
|   |           | <b>08 2200CST</b>          |                           |                          | <b>2</b>                       | <b>0</b>                        |                                 |                              | <b>WINTER STORM</b>            |
|   |           | <b>09 2200CST</b>          |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| A storm over the Southern Plains moved northeast bringing rain to the area which switched over to snow in the evening on March 8th. The snowfall persisted overnight with a mixture of freezing rain and snow in our southeastern counties. By the time the snow tapered off, snowfall amounts ranged from 2 inches in Coles county to over 6 inches in Knox, Peoria, and Fulton counties. Numerous accidents were reported with dozens of minor injuries. Two men died in separate accidents in Peoria county as they lost control of their vehicles due to the treacherous road conditions. Even after the snowfall subsided, gusty winds to 50 mph created near white-out conditions in most locations, before subsiding during the evening hours on the 9th. M41VE, M52VE |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>SCOTT County</b>   |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>COUNTYWIDE</b>   | <b>27</b> | <b>1725CST</b>             |                           |                          | <b>0</b>                       | <b>0</b>                        |                                 | <b>0</b>                     | <b>THUNDERSTORM WIND</b>       |
|   |           | <b>1800CST</b>             |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| Numerous large tree limbs and power lines were blown down throughout Scott county.  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>SCHUYLER County</b>  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>CAMDEN to</b>  | <b>27</b> | <b>1747CST</b>             |                           |                          | <b>0</b>                       | <b>2</b>                        | <b>1M</b>                       | <b>0</b>                     | <b>THUNDERSTORM WIND (G52)</b> |
| <b>5 E RUSHVILLE</b>  |           | <b>1810CST</b>             |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| As thunderstorms moved through Schuyler county, they destroyed several barns and grain bins in Camden. A Camden couple sustained injuries after being struck by a tree limb while they were standing in their yard watching the storm pass. Numerous windows were blown out in Rushville and a roof was torn off of a recycling plant 5 miles east of Rushville. The winds caused the rear wall of one business to collapse and another lost its roof in Rushville. Also, numerous cars at two dealerships were damaged, 2 satellite dishes and communications antennas were torn off the roof of a radio station and a storage building was demolished. In total, approximately \$1 million dollars worth of damage was sustained in Schuyler county.                        |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>CASS County</b>  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>BEARDSTOWN</b>   | <b>27</b> | <b>1808CST</b>             |                           |                          | <b>0</b>                       | <b>0</b>                        |                                 | <b>0</b>                     | <b>THUNDERSTORM WIND</b>       |
| Several large trees were blown down and some siding was taken off of one home in Beardstown. No injuries were reported and no damage estimate was available.  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>FULTON County</b>  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>ASTORIA to</b>   | <b>27</b> | <b>1810CST</b>             |                           |                          | <b>0</b>                       | <b>0</b>                        |                                 | <b>0</b>                     | <b>THUNDERSTORM WIND</b>       |
| <b>FARMINGTON</b>   |           | <b>1843CST</b>             |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| A line of severe thunderstorms moved through Fulton county. In Astoria, a couple of mobile homes were damaged, several business signs, trees, tree limbs, and power lines were blown down. At the same time in Avon, numerous power lines and tree limbs were blown down and the township garage sustained some damage. Numerous trees, tree limbs, and power lines were blown  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>SANGAMON County</b>  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>2 E PLEASANT PLAIN</b>   | <b>27</b> | <b>1825CST</b>             |                           |                          | <b>0</b>                       | <b>0</b>                        | <b>88.5K</b>                    | <b>0</b>                     | <b>THUNDERSTORM WIND</b>       |
| <b>MECHANICSBURG</b>  |           | <b>1850CST</b>             |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| A line of severe thunderstorms moved rapidly across Sangamon county causing scattered reports of damage. Two miles east of Pleasant Plains, a semi was blown over and 3 cars were blown off the road. In Chatham, some siding was blown off of a house. In Springfield, a grain bin was blown over, a large tent was destroyed, and numerous trees, tree limbs, and power lines were blown down. Three miles west of Mechanicsburg, an open side hay shed was destroyed. Also, just south of Mechanicsburg, a large metal storage shed was destroyed and its contents were damaged including a combine, tractor, and a two-ton grain truck. So far, damage has been estimated around \$88,500. No injuries were reported.   |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>MENARD County</b>  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>2 S PETERSBURG to</b>  | <b>27</b> | <b>1830CST</b>             |                           |                          | <b>0</b>                       | <b>0</b>                        |                                 | <b>0</b>                     | <b>THUNDERSTORM WIND</b>       |
| <b>ATHENS</b>   |           | <b>1835CST</b>             |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| Thunderstorm winds blew down numerous trees along Route 97 two miles south of Petersburg and destroyed a transformer in   |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>KNOX County</b>  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>2 S ABINGDON to</b>  | <b>27</b> | <b>1835CST</b>             |                           |                          | <b>0</b>                       | <b>0</b>                        |                                 | <b>0</b>                     | <b>THUNDERSTORM WIND</b>       |
| <b>2 E ALTONA</b>   |           | <b>1858CST</b>             |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| A line of severe thunderstorms moved across Knox county. A semi was overturned two miles south of Abingdon. Numerous trees, tree limbs, and power poles were blown down. Two miles east of Altona, a garage was destroyed. No injuries were reported  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>PEORIA County</b>  |           |                            |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |
| <b>6 S ELMWOOD to</b>   | <b>27</b> | <b>1843CST</b>             |                           |                          | <b>0</b>                       | <b>0</b>                        |                                 | <b>0</b>                     | <b>THUNDERSTORM WIND (G54)</b> |
| <b>PEORIA</b>   |           | <b>1910CST</b>             |                           |                          |                                |                                 |                                 |                              |                                |



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|--|------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------------------|-------|-------------------------|
|  |      |                            |                           |                          | Killed               | Injured | Property            | Crops |                         |
| <b>ILLINOIS, Central</b>   |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| As a line of severe thunderstorms moved through Peoria county, numerous reports of damage were received. Six miles south of Elmwood, several small greenhouses and a metal building were damaged. In Peoria, a 200 foot by 75 foot section of the post office garage roof was blown off and curled into a ball and the second story of an abandoned business collapsed due to the thunderstorm winds. No injuries were reported. Throughout the county numerous trees, tree limbs, power poles, and power lines were blown down. No damage estimate was available. |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| <b>MASON County</b>  |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| 1 E ALLEN  | 27   | 1845CST                    |                           |                          | 0                    | 0       | 0                   |       | THUNDERSTORM WIND       |
| Numerous trees and power lines were blown down 1 mile east of Allen. No injuries were reported and no damage estimate was available.   |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| <b>LOGAN County</b>  |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| SAN JOSE to<br>CHESTNUT  | 27   | 1847CST<br>1910CST         |                           |                          | 0                    | 0       | 0                   |       | THUNDERSTORM WIND (G61) |
| As a line of severe thunderstorms moved through Logan county, numerous reports of damage were received. A greenhouse in San Jose was damaged and in Mt. Pulaski two buildings sustained roof damage, a storage shed was damaged, and numerous large tree limbs were blown down. In Chestnut, a 1-ton truck was blown over on Route 54. No injuries were reported and no damage   |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| <b>TAZEWELL County</b>   |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| GREEN VLY to<br>MORTON   | 27   | 1855CST<br>1910CST         |                           |                          | 0                    | 0       | 500K                | 0     | THUNDERSTORM WIND (G52) |
| A line of severe thunderstorms moved through Tazewell county. A 60 mph wind gust was recorded in Delavan and numerous trees & tree limbs were reported blown down in Green Valley, South Pekin, and Tremont. In Morton, the thunderstorm winds caused \$500,000 in damage to a car dealership as shingles, rocks, and other debris were blown onto over 300 cars, knocking out windows on some and causing large dents in others. No injuries were reported.   |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| <b>STARK County</b>  |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| 5 S WYOMING to<br>5 W BRADFORD   | 27   | 1908CST<br>1915CST         |                           |                          | 0                    | 0       | 0                   |       | THUNDERSTORM WIND       |
| Numerous large trees were blown down. Several fell down across Hwy 93 five miles west of Bradford. No injuries were reported and no damage estimate was available.   |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| <b>DE WITT County</b>  |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| CLINTON  | 27   | 1920CST                    |                           |                          | 0                    | 0       | 0                   |       | THUNDERSTORM WIND       |
| Thunderstorm winds blew down numerous power lines in Clinton. No damage estimate was available.  |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| <b>MARSHALL County</b>   |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| SPARLAND to<br>HENRY   | 27   | 1920CST<br>1932CST         |                           |                          | 0                    | 0       | 0                   |       | THUNDERSTORM WIND       |
| Thunderstorm winds blew down numerous power lines and power poles in Sparland and Henry. No injuries were reported and no damage estimate was available.   |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| <b>MCLEAN County</b>   |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| BLOOMINGTON  | 27   | 1932CST                    |                           |                          | 0                    | 0       | 0                   |       | THUNDERSTORM WIND (G54) |
| Numerous large tree limbs were blown down. One fell down onto an unoccupied car, causing the roof to cave in. No injuries were reported and no damage estimate was available.  |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| <b>MOULTRIE County</b>   |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| LOVINGTON  | 27   | 1940CST                    |                           |                          | 0                    | 0       | 0                   |       | THUNDERSTORM WIND       |
| Thunderstorm winds destroyed a shed and blew over a large tree just south of Lovington. No injuries were reported and no damage estimate was available.  |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| <b>CHAMPAIGN County</b>  |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| 3 SW PHILO   | 28   | 0515CST                    |                           |                          | 0                    | 0       | 90K                 | 0     | THUNDERSTORM WIND       |
| Thunderstorm winds tore out the entire west side of one home, destroyed the framing members of a house under construction, damaged a garage, and blew a mobile home off of its foundation. In all six homes, two barns, a trailer, and a shed were damaged 3 miles southwest of Philo. No injuries were reported and damage was estimated around \$90,000.   |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| <b>COLES County</b>  |      |                            |                           |                          |                      |         |                     |       |                         |
| 1 SW MATTOON to<br>1 E MATTOON   | 28   | 0525CST<br>0532CST         | 1.5                       | 220                      | 0                    | 3       | 3M                  | 0     | Tornado (F2)            |



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|----------|------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|-------|--------------------|
|          |      | Local/<br>Standard | Length<br>(Miles) | Width<br>(Yards) | Killed    | Injured | Property  | Crops |                    |

### ILLINOIS, Central

A tornado touched down 1 mile southwest of Mattoon and travelled to the northeast. It damaged 4 homes in the initial touchdown area and then crossed a set of railroad tracks turning over 4 empty 30-ton coal cars. After crossing the railroad tracks, the tornado hit a self-storage facility, where six of the ten buildings in the complex were destroyed. The tin and steel girder buildings were not bolted down to the cement slabs, so they were lifted up, "wadded up" into a big pile, and deposited downstream about 200 yards. Further to the northeast, it damaged or destroyed numerous homes and businesses before lifting. It remained aloft for several blocks, then touched down again, tearing off treetops and damaging several roofs in the area. It lifted again and touched down a final time about a block away. Damage in this area was to tree tops and roofs. Overall, the tornado was on the ground for 1.5 miles and it either damaged or destroyed 120 homes and businesses. Damage is estimated between \$2.5 and \$3 million. Two people sustained minor injuries and one 9 year old child was seriously injured when a picture frame blew off the wall, hit her in the back, and cut her, causing her left lung to partially collapse.